MINUTES

OF THE

TWELFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

CHEROKEE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

THE UNION CHURCH

DEKALB COUNTY, ALABAMA:

Friday before 3d Sabbath in September 1853.

Printed at the office of "Stiff's Radical Reformer,"

GADSDEN, ALABAMA:

1854.

1st. The Delegates of the Cherokee Baptist Association Assembled at Union Church, DeKalb County, on Friday the 16th,day of September, A. D. 1853. The introductory sermon was preached by Elder, J. J. D. Runfroe from the 8th, chapter and 33, verse of Pauls letter to the Romans.

2nd. Read the letters and enrolled the names of delegates from the churches.

3rd. The constitution and by-laws were called for and read.

4th. Received to membership the following newly constituted churches, viz:— Mount Olivet, Jackson county. Mount Pleasant, Marshall county, Clear Creek, St. Clair county and Massadonia, DeKalb county.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

SATURDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock, Sept. 17, 1853

The Association convened persuant to adjournment, prayer by Elder, W. M. Wilson.

5th. Called the roll and marked the absentees.

6th. Elected by ballot Elder, Wm. C. Mynatt Moderator and W. B. Wynne Clerk.

Received Correspondence from the Tallassehatchee Association, a letter, and Elder Wm. M. Wilson and P. Archey Messenger; from the Coosa a letter, minutes, and Elder Wm. Kimsey Messenger.

8th. Invited Ministers of the Gospel of our order, who are not members of this body, to seats with us.

9th. Called for, and read, the minutes of the last Association.

10th. Appointed the following committees. viz: On preaching A. B. Smith and J. Coats from the church, and J. T. Morgan, Redin Hodges and Jas. Grogan from the body; on the State of Religion, A. W. Cunningham, J. J. D. Renfroe and W. B. Wynne; on Correspondence, A. Hawkins, E. T. Goggin and T. N. Appleton; on Domestic Missions, John Lawrence, R. M. Williams and Redin Hodges; on Temperance H. O. Golightly, M. B. Gaines and E. T. Goggin; on Finance, J. Coats, Allen Lee and J. B. High.

11th. On motion agreed to have no committee on Sabbath Schools, but recommend the ministers in the bounds of the Association, to establish Sabbath Schools in the several churches, under their respective charges.

12th. Appointed correspondents to the following Associations, viz; to the Tallassehatchee J. J. D. Renfroe, Wm. C. Mynatt, J. A. Reave, T. N. Appleton, and W. B. Wynne to write. To the Coosa, A. W. Cunningham, Renfroe, Slaton, and J. Lawrence to write.

13th. Ordered, that the four new churches received at this session be attached to the 2nd. district.

14th. Appointed Union Meetings as follows: 1st. district at Holly Springs to commence on Friday before the first Sabbath in August, 1854. 2nd. district at Pleasant Grove, to commence on Friday before the 3rd. Sabbath in July, 1854.

15th. Appointed by ballot, Elder W. C. Mynatt, to preach the next Introductory sermon, at the next annual session, Elder J. A. Reave Alternate, and appointed Elder J. J. D. Renfroe to preach a Missionary sermon at 11 o'clock, on Sabbath of next session, J. A. Reave alternate.

16th. Appointed Elder J. J. D. Renfroe and Brother A. W. Cunningham delegates to the Alabama Baptist State Convention, to be held with the Baptist church

in Selma, Dallas county, to commence on Saturday before the first Lord's day in November next.

17th. Ordered, 800 copies of the minutes printed, that the Clerk superintend the same and retain all the funds sent up for that purpose (after paying for the printing) for his services.

18th. Appointed distributing agents in the 1st. district, Brother A. Hawkins and M. B. Gaines; in the the 2nd. district, Brothers A. B. Smith and J. T. Morgan.

19th. Appointed Executive committees, in the 1st, district, W. B Wynne, Jas McGhee, Geo. Harkrider, H. O. Golightley and M. B. Gaines; in the 2nd. district T. M. Appelton, C. P. Johnson, John Glazner, J. T. Morgan and J. Coats.

20th. Appointed a committee of five, consisting of Brothers John Lawrence J. Coats, A. W. Cunningham, D. H. Amos and W. B. Wynne to examine the petition sent up from Providence, Pleasant Hill and Bethany Churches, and on motion Elders Archey, Wilson and Ramsey were requested to meet with said committee and they make their report as early as practicable.

Adjourned to 2 o'clock, P. M.

2 O'clock, P. M.

Met pursuant to Adjournment, Prayer by Elder Kimsey.

21st. Appointed Elder Kimsey to preach a missionary sermon on to-morrow at 11 o'clock, Elder Mynatt alternate.

22d. Read and adopted of the report the special committee appointed, to examine the petition of Providence, Pleasant Hill and Bethany churches. (See exhibit A.)

23rd. On motion Elder Mynatt was released from appointing the committee designated in above report and Brother Wynne requested to make the appointment, Who oppointed as that committee. Elders J.J.D. Renfroe, J.A. Reaves and Brothers A. W. Cunningham, John Lawrence and H. O. Golightly.

24th. called for and read the reprot of the Committee, who met at Newtonville, DeKalb county. on Friday the 19th August last, and ordered that it be spread upon the minutes of this session. (See exhibit B.)

25th. Received and adopted the reports of the following committees: 1st. on Temperance. (see exhibit C.) on the State of Religion, [see exhibit D.)

Adjourned to Monday morning 9 o'clock.

On Sabbath the stand was occupied by Elders James Fields, W. Kimsey, W. C. Mynatt and J. J. D. Renfroe who preached in the order of their names to a very large and attentive congregation, and we are fully assured that their labors were not in vain

Monday Morning, 9 o'clock.

Met pursuant to adjournment, Prayer by the Moderator.

26th Called the roll and marked absentees.

27th. Read and adopted the report of the book board, at the last session of this body, and agreed to continue the same reducing the number of members to seven, and appointing them near or within reasonable bounds of Cedar Bluff, and ordered the Clerk to have the constitution of the board placed on the back of the minutes. The board to consist of W. C. Mynatt, Renfroe, J. Lawrence, G. Harkrider J. B. High, W. B. Watt and A. W. Cunningham.

28th Received and adopted the reports of the following committees, viz: On Domestic Missions, (see exhibit F.) Executive committee 1st. district, (see exhibit G.) report of Executive committee of 2nd. district, (see exhibit H.) report of committee on Correspondence (see exhibit I.) on Finance (see exhibit K.)

29th. Granted a letter of dismission to Valley Head church.

30th. The next session of this body will he held with Lebanon church, Turkey Town, Chorokee county, to commence on Friday before the 3rd Sabbath in September, 1854.

31st. On motion the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are due to the brethren of Union church, and the surrounding community, for the kind and hospitable manner they have received and accommodated the delegates, as well as all others visiting this meeting.

32nd. Adjourned. W. C. MYNATT, *Moderator*.

W. B. WYNNE, Clerk.

EXHIBIT A.—We, your committee, to whom was referred the subject of the petition accompanying the letter of Pleasant Hill, Providence, (DeKalb) and Bethany Churches, beg leave to ubmit the following report: We recommend that this body proceed to select a judicious committee to labor with the brethren composing said Churches, and, if possible, reconcile them in relation to the act of this body, alledged by said churches as grievances.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN LAWRENCE, Ch'rm.

EXHIBIT B.—*To the Brethren composing the Cherokee Baptist Association, and all others who may have an interest in the dissemination of truth, throughout all countries, and among all people, greeting:*—Whereas, many difficulties have heretofore existed in the church of Christ, at Pleasant Grove, DeKalb county, Alabama, which difficulties, we believe, have been fully investigated and determined, after the manner and under the circumstances following, to wit:—

The church at Pleasant Grove, in consequence of said difficulties, conceived herself not in a proper condition to settle them satisfactorily, consequently she agreed to call a committee to be composed of brethren from six sister churches; three from each church, to act as an advisary council, to meet with said church on Friday before the 3d Sabbath in Nov'r 1851. The committee consisted of the following brethren: George Harkrider, A. Hawkins and F. M. Hardwick, from Cedar Bluff; O. Hester and A. B. Smith, from Union Church; Henry Hurley, C. Puckett and S. J. Williams, from Unity Church; E.P. Johnson, from Providence; W. S. Pitts and Sam'l Miller, from Mill Creek; and William Gray, from Bethany Church, who, after some discussion in the church, were received, and full and complete authority was given them to investigate and determine the whole matter of difficulties, which had marred the peace and happiness of said church. The church then submitted to the committee their records containing the specification of charges alleged against Brother Mynatt by Brother J. M. Mitchell, with directions to call before them any testimony from the church that might be necessary in the investigation of the caae; and, it was further agreed by tne church that the decision of said committee should be her decision. The committee then retired and commenced their investigation by an examination of the church records relating to the existing difficulties--containing also, the specification of charges alleged by Brother Mitchell against Brother Mynatt. They also called before them Brother E. P. Reed, Josiah Brock and Harris Brock, who made the following statements, to wit:--That at the time the delegates were appointed to the Association, in August '51, there was not a full representation of the church present, yet, notwithstanding several of the brethren present entered their protest against the action of the church on that day, she proceeded to appoint delegates to the Association, and recommended the church to withdraw from the Baptist State Convention. Among the delegates, they placed the name of Bro. J. M. Mitchell, who was then under censure of the church, but the charges had not been preferred. They further stated, that Brother Mynatt had fully satisfied the church that the several charges alleged against him by Brother Mitchell were without foundation, and, therefore, she refused to notice further said charges; and, with regard to the call meeting, at which the church changed her del-

egations to the Association, they stated that public notice was given that such meeting would be held, and that they had good reason to believe that every member of the church had knowledge of it.

The committee, after debating on, and investigating the whole matter, made out a report justifying the church in the course she had taken in changing her delegates to the Association, and in preferring charges against Brother Mitchell, which report was presented to the church and received by him. Brother Mitchell then asked the church to postpone the further consideration of his case until the next Conference, which she did.

The Pleasant Grove church at her December meeting, took up the case of Brother Mitchell upon the charges preferred against him at the call meeting in September, and ratified by the committee in November 1851, which charges were couched in the following words, to wit:—For using the same words for which T. B. Watts was excluded, saying, "he (Mitchell) would not vote for the charge against said Watts, for he had used the words." Also for bringing before the church a written instrument containing several specifications from rumor against our Pastor, without giving him any notice of the same prior to the meeting at which they were presented; involving the church in matters, part of which were past and settled, and for prosecuting and trying to establish the same, which he failed to do, and denied at first their being charges, and for other irreligious conduct towards the pastor and church.

The foregoing charges were then taken up, and Bro. Mitchell required to answer. The vote was first taken to ascertain whether he (Mitchell) had used the language embraced in the first specification, which the church decided in the negative. On motion, it was erased from the charge. The second specification was then taken up, and, after much debate, a motion was made to exclude Bro. Mitchell from the church, which motion was decided by the following vote: yeas 25, nays 33! So Bro. Mitchell was sustained.

January Term, 1852; the church at Pleasant Grove—Bro. Ramsey in the chair:—The aggrieved party petition the church to reconsider so much of the last Minute as related to the justification of Bro. Mitchell, and his restoration without any concession—yeas 37, nays 39.

February Term, 1852:—The aggrieved party continue their application in the manner following, to wit: "To that number of brethren and sisters, of Pleasant Grove Church, who have sustained Bro. J. M. Mitchell, in voting his justification under charge preferred against him, at the call meeting, 4th Sept. 1851:—Brethren and sisters—We believe you have erred in so doing, therefore we humbly ask you to aid us in calling for another committee from eight churches, in the Association, 3 members from each church, to meet the church at Pleasant Grove, on Friday before the 3d Sabbath in March next, to investigate the decision of the December Conference, upon Bro. Mitchell's case. We hope you will religiously comply with our wishes, as the aggrieved party, believing it will be for the glory of God and safety of the church. If our request and petition are refused, and cannot be heard, or granted by you for the good of the cause of Christ, that is bleeding at every pore, we do by these presents and our names assigned, humbly say to you that we cannot fellowship you in your course of discipline in sustaining Brother Mitchell in his conduct under charge. Therefore we withdraw our fellowship from you as brethren and sisters in disorder, retaining the Constitution and By-Laws of the church, and papers and records thereunto belonging, claiming ourselves to be the church of Christ, at Pleasant Grove."

To the above petition there were 40 names subscribed—members of the Pleasant Grove church It was read in the church, and contemptibly voted out. The members whose names were assigned to the above petition, withdrew and convened at Newtonville, on Saturday before the 3d Sabbath in March, to carry out the spirit of said petition, at which time they determined to call a committee to be composed of brethren from ten churches, each church sending three brethren to meet with the brethren calling themselves the church of Christ, at Pleasant Grove, on Friday before the 3d Sabbath in April 1852, in order to scrutinize their act in relation to their withdrawal from the Mitchell party, as they were generally denominated, and to justify or censure them for their said conduct, as the facts would authorize. The churches named were the

following, to wit: Mount Harmony, Union, Providence, Pleasant Hill, Bethany, Lebanon, Yellow Creek, Cedar Bluff, Unity, and Mill Creek.

At the time and place designated for the meeting of the committe, the following brethren presented themselves, to wit. Geo. Harkrider, A. Hawkins, Sampson Donalds, Philip Turner, J. B. High, C. C. Ridings, M. G. Williams, C. P. Johnson, E. T Goggin, O. Hester, A. B. Smith, W. S. Whitten, Dan'l Blackwell, S. W. Crow, S. Waldrop. J. T. Morgan & D. A. Heffner. The church then presented said committee with the records of Pleasant Grove church, showing fully the course they had pursued, requesting them to investigate the subject thoroughly, and report as justice required. The following is the report of said commmittee:

We, your committee, to whom were submitted the records of your church, have carefully examined the same as far as relates to the case in point. With regard to the action of the church in the case of J. M. Mitchell, at the Dec'r term 1851: Resolved, We, your committee, believe that Pleasant Grove church has acted in bad faith in releasing J. M. Mitchell from the charges preferred against him in September, and ratified by the committee that met in November '51, because we believe the discipline as taught in the word of God, has been utterly disregarded, and set aside by the church in that act.

2d. We believe that that part of the church claiming to be the majority, did wrongin refusing to reconsider the act of the December meeting, and also in refusing to call another committee.

3d. We believe that if the (so called) majority had granted the petition of the (so called) minority, it would have released them, and there would have been no separation in the church at Pleasant Grove.

4th. We, your committee, believe that the (so called) majority have departed from the discipline as taught in the New Testament, and, as such, are in disorder, and, we also believe that the (so called) minority have acted agreeably to the true discipline, and are, consequently, the true church, whereunto we, as your committee, have signed our names.

GEORGE HARKRIDER, Chr'm.

A. Hawkins, Sec'y.

From the report of the last mentioned committee it is very apparent that they recognized the brethren with whom they met as the church at Pleasant Grove, now holding her monthly meetings at Newtonville. So the brethren at Newtonville sent delegates to the Association in Sep't 1852, which delegation was rec'd by said body, as the proper Representatives of Pleasant Grove church, DeKalb Co., Ala. Statistics 53 original members.

The excluded members also sent their delegates to the Association, who presented the letter they bore, asking admission into the body as Representatives of Pleasant Grove church, but they were not recognized, and were, consequently, rejected. Statistics 45 original members.

The Association then ordered the reports of the committee which had labored with the Pleasant Grove church, to be published in her Minutes, which was accordingly done, and we had hoped that a publication of all the facts connected with the case would have been sufficient to satisfy the minds of the most scrupulous, but in this we were sadly disappointed, as the sequel will show.

On the 19th Dec'r 1852, the following brethren, C. W. Sparks, deacon, from Cave Spring church, and Elder J. M. Wood, from Cedar Town church, Coosa Baptist Association; Geo. S. J. Whatley, deacon, and J. R. Green, from Mt. Zion church, Coosa River Association. Ala.; Elder M. W. Thornton and Elder G. D. Johnson, from Greensport, Ala; Elder A. G. Hammock, from Sand Mountain, Liberty Association, Ala.; Henry Tidmore, from Liberty church, Taliasahatchee Ass., Ala.; Elder W. Penn, from Union church, and Elder James M. Ramsey; A. W. Shepherd, deacon; A. J. Land, deacon; J. T. McBrayer, and William Gray, from Bethany church, Cherokee Baptist Ass., convened at the house formerly occupied by Pleasant Grove church, with the members which had been previously excluded from the communion of said church, and who were thus regarded by the Cherokee Baptist Association. They then and there formed them-

selves into a committee, and proceeded to investigate the sources of difficulty which had resulted in the division of said church, which difficulties, we believe, had been previously settled legally, and such was the decission of the Association.

The result of the investigation of said committee now appears in the Jacksonville Republican, by order of the excluded members of said church, bearing date 18th June 1853, and not by order of said committee.

In said report, the Pleasant Grove church, now located at Newtonville, avers that great injustice has been done her, and not only her, but the report has assailed the acts of all former committees, as also the act of the Cherokee Baptist Association. We now propose to point out some of the errors and irregularities they have made manifest in their report as published.

1st. We aver that brethren from sister Associations have no right to interfere in settling difficulties in churches of this Association, where they have been previously adjudicated.

2d. They say in their report that the facts in the case were submitted by the parties interested without debate, when, in truth, the church had no voice in the investigation. The brethren at Newtonville were requested to produce the church records, which they refused to do, and made no further statements in relation to the case.

3d. They say that they acted mainly upon an affirmed copy of the record, when they could have no record of November meeting, at which time the entire source of difficulties was investigated. The petition of the brethren now at Newtonville, recognized as Pleasant Grove Church, was drawn from recollection, all of which facts were stated to the committee by J. Brock, who read what they claimed to be a correct copy of the church records, in their meeting.

4th. In pointing out irregularities of brethren without having a knowledge of facts governing them in making up their decissions.

5th. In representing those excluded members as the majority, when facts show the contrary to be true.

6th. They conclude by assuming the prerogative of recommending those brethren in disorder to the "favorable notice and consideration of Baptists generally."

All of which assumption, errors, irregularities and misrepresentations, have been published, exhibited and circulated, for the purpose of creating prejudice in the public mind against not only the acts and doings of Pleasant Grove church, but also of the Cherokee Baptist Association.

Without a knowledge of facts, we cannot say that any of the brethern who acted as members of said committee, had authority vested in them, either by their Association or churches, but we are fully conscious that some of them, and, perhaps all, were volunteers, having rec'd no appointment either from Church or Association.

The committee disagree in relation to the correctness of the report as published in the Jacksonville Republican. Bros. Whatley and Johnson say that the committee only recommended those excluded members back to the Cherokee Baptist Association. Other reports are in circulation said to hage eminated from a member of said committee, that the brethren composing said committee were severally appointed by their respective Associations, which report we incur the responsibility to deny.

In the circulation of the above enumerated reports, originating in the action of said committee, the brethren composing the Pleasant Grove church, located at Newtonville, are primarily the injured party. And feeling that great injustice has been done them in the circulation of said *reports*, they by an act of the church in conference, on Friday before the 3rd. Sabbath in July 1853; cordially invited those Brethren from Sister Associationa and who had composed the committee, who investigated the matter in December, 1852, with those excluded members known as the Mitchell party, to meet with them, in connection with all the members of committees who have heretofore acted in the investigation of their church difficulties, on Friday before the 3rd. Sabbath in August, 1852.

The church met in conferance, on Friday before the 3rd. Sabbath in August, 1853, when the major part of the brethren who had composed the two committees from the churches, within the limits of Cherokee Baptist Association, who had heretofore aided in the adjudicatian of difficulties existing in said churches presented themselves. The members of said committees were invited by the church to sit in council with her, in order to investigate wrongs, errors, irregularities and misrepresentations contained, as she believed in the re-

port made and circulated by the brethren who acted in concert with the members excluded from Pleasant Grove church, which invitation was cordially accepted. The church then asked the brethren present, who had acted with the excluded members in December 1852, to wit: Wood, Sparks and Tidmore, if they were willing to takes the records of the church, and hear from the committee all they had done, and enter into a thorough investigation of every subject relating to her difficulties, and if upon such investigation, they found they had erred in their report, if they would erase it, as they had promised to do. They declined acting, upon the ground that but three of the committee were present, and that they were unwilling to presume to answer in the name of said committee. The church then asked the brethren, to answer as individuals alone for themselves, and not for another, but the brethren seems to fear the light, because their deeds are evil. We hope not, if so, may they speedily come to the light that their deeds may be reproved.

A proposition was then made to the brethren, that if they could produce their church records, and consent to enter into a full investigation of all the causes of discontent, call in all the testimony from the church and those members with whom they had previously acted in committee, necessary to elucidate the subjebt thoroughly, and make such a decision as the facts would authorize, and the church would abide by it. The brethen declined alledging as a reason, that the other party might be ready. In fact every proposition was made to those brethren to favor an investigation, that we conceive could be brought within the compass of justice and fair play, to the end that the matter might be reconciled between the church and the committee that had acted wsth those excluded members, by the correction of those misrepresentations, which they promise to erase whenever convinced. But it is utterly impossible to produce conviction without a hearing, and who so deaf as those who have ears to hear and still refuse.

And those brethren declining to act, we feel it our duty to expose their errors, and herewith pssent the facts, and submit them for the consideration of our next annual meeting. And we as members of said committee in connection with Pleasant Grove church, do believe that those brethren, who acted with those excluded members have assumed powers, which are not authorized in the New Testament, and likewise unknown to this Baptist denomination generally, at least, as far as we have informed ourselves in the history of its usage.—Their actiou has been production of much evil within the limits of our Association uncalled for by us as an Association, or as churches. And when every thing had been done, that could be done legally. to have the matter adjusted, we are mortified do find that there are brethren disposed to add fuel to the flames; and instead of expressing a wish to put an end to strife and confusion they are busily engaged in sowing the seed of discord by acknowledging friendship for excluded members of Pleasant Grove Church, for whom we, as delegates of several churches in the Cherokee Baptist Association have none. Hoping, that a spirit of justice and reconciliation may animate the bosom of the brethren, who have thought proper to sit in judgment upon our consciences, without even allowing us the privilege of answering for ourselves, we beg leave to submit our cause to God, the church, and an intelligent world.

F. M. HARDWICK, Sec'y. G. HARKRIDER, Ch'm.

EXHIBIT C.— We, your committee on Temperance, beg leave to report that the cause of Temperance in our bounds, since our last issue, has made a considerable advance; and we are happy to see the time making its appearance, when our churches will be regarded as strictly Temperate, and that our denomination will give a united voice against the use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, aud we would further remark, that we have witnessed the good effects of the labors of the Ministers of the Gospel in compliance with the recommendation of the Temperance committee, at our last session. And would recommend the ministers all to persevere in their efforts on this subject, until a bible temperance shall prevail throughout our land. All of which is repectfully submitted.

H. G. GOLIGHTLY, Chairman.

EXHIBIT D.—Your committee to whom was referred the state of Religion in your bounds. after a careful consideration beg leave to report as follows: Some of he churches complain of coldness, which is doubtless owing to indifference and to

a great degree a neglect of a discharge of duty, on the part of church members; we fear that brethren do not pray enough in their families and at the prayer meetings. Those portions that have had the homemission among them, bring good news from a far, and by way of encouragement we recommend the churches to keep up this operation, and be more liberal in their contributing, that the cause may be more fully carried out. Respectfully submitted.

J. J. D. RENFROE, Chairman.

EXHIBIT E.—We, your committe, to whom was intrusted the suggestion of a proper plan of an *A*ssociational Book depository, beg leave to report; that we met and organized, and proceeded to purchase $201 90 worth of books. We have sold books for cash $169 52. We have unsold books to the amount of $63 70. Out of this the expense of transportation is to be paid. We beg leave to report further that we believe our cause has been greatly benefitted by the operation, and in fact we know it. We, therefore, recommend the propriety of continuing the operation under the plan of our organization. Respectfully submitted.

W. C. MYNATT, President of Book Board.

F. *M.* HARDWICK, Secretary.

EXHIBIT F.—We, your committee, to whom was referred the cause of Domestic mission, beg leave to submit the following report. From the limited knowledge we have of the subject, our report will be short. We discover from the reports of Brother Renfroe and Fields that the cause is not loosing any of its interest, as the field is enlarged, the wants of sections of new territory increases the demands for our assistance. There are several small churches almost alone dependent upon our missionary operations for the preaching of the word, as they are wholly unable to procure the services of a pastor; and we are aware, that they who preach the Gospel should live by the Gospel. *C*onsequently, we would advise the several executive committees, who are appointed for the ensuing year, to double their diligence, and, if possible, the means to have the Gospel preached to every individual within the limits of our Association. Respectfully submitted,

JOHN LA WREN CE, *C*hairman.

EXHIBIT G.—The executive committee appointed at the last session of your body for the 1st, district beg leave to submit the following report. We employed, Elder J. J. D. *R*enfroe to occupy the field in the Northwestern portion of the 1st district, to supply the destitute churches of said field, for which we agreed to pay him $200, Brother Renfroe commenced his labors on the 4th Sabbath of September, 1852, and continued them up to the time of your present meeting, and for further particulars with regard to the discharge of his duty, we refer you to his report, which is herewith submitted. We have paid to Brother *R*enfroe $100, leaving yet unpaid $100; we have collected from the following churches and members thereof, the several sums annexed to their names.

Holly Spring.			
Esther Jones	$1 00	G Harkrider	2 50
Elizabeth morgan	1 00	John Lawrence	2 00
Josiah moore	50	John james	2 00
M. B. Gaines	2 00	W B watt	5 00
c. P. Force	2 50	George wester	2 00
G. w. Orear	3 00	E J Hardwick	59
R. c. Hiatt	1 00	John crews	1 00
A. w. cunningham	2 50	John Long	1 00
w. D. cobb	2 00	E S Hardwick	25
S. B. Taylor	2 00	wm. willoughby	25
	——	J B F Hide	50
	17 50	E J Hardwick	25
		G Lawrence	50

Unity.			
J B. High	$5 00	W P reed	25
C C. ridings	2 50	M J Turnley	30
Jacob coffman	2 00	A S chisolm	25
Jas Grogan	2 00	George wester	50
C. Pucket	1 50		31 55
J. E. Bradley	1 00	*Lebanon*	
John Little	1 00	Isaac green	$5 00
L. Blackwell	1 00	Jacob green	2 00
H. Herey	1 00	G E coats	3 00
E. T. wllingham	1 00	Mercer Thompson	1 00
Lewis Blackwell	50	R Penn	1 00
Mathew Guthrie	50	J J clanton	2 00
Elizabeth Hurley	50	J C white	1 00
catharine Hurley	25	Perry Turner	1 00
Hannah E. Hurley	25	John Shortnessee	1 00
Elizabeth coffman	25	J M whorton	1 00
Nancy coffman	25	R M williams	1 00
S. J. williams	5 00	warren Lay	2 00
Dan'l Blackwell	1 00	M G williams	2 00
		P M Turner	1 00
Received from Unity church for last year:			24 00
S. J: williams	$5 00	*Mill Creek.*	
S. Bankson	50	H o golightly	5 00
charlotte Bennett	25	W T Pitts	2 00
James Laughli	25	E V Posey	2 00
Lavina Blockwell	20	Samuel Miller	2 00
			11 00
Cedar Bluff.			
G J williamson	$5 00	Received from mill creek for last year seven dollars	
F M Hardwick	5 00		
James D reed	2 50		

REPORT OF J. J. D. RENFROE.

To the executive committee of the first district of the Cherokee Baptist Association:—

Dear Brethren—According to orders from you, I began labors on the 4th Sabbath in September 1852. I visited all the churches, and arranged my appointments as soon thereafter as the nature of the case would admit. I found the brethren willing and happy to welcome me to their midst as their servant for the year. And, to the best of my abilities I have preached the word, and, notwithstanding in some places there is not a bright manifestation of great good, in others the word has been spirit and life to some immortal souls, though I am sorry to inform you that my health has been such at many times that I could not discharge the duty, nor perform the work required at my hands; and, my sickness came on at the very time when the field cried out for help, therefore I failed to be able to hold protracted meetings with some of the churches; with some others, however, I (with the help of other brethren) held meetings that were crowned with happy consequences. Brethren, three churches, or some of them at least, must be supplied under the present plan of operation, if possible. The Baptist cause here is at present losing nothing, but gaining ground, and will soon triumph if attended to. My labors are as follows: Travelled 1180 miles, preached 120 sermons; exhortations 20; Baptised 18; rec'd by letter 12; excluded 7; visits to families and the sick, for religious purposes, MANY. I leave the churches in peace—may the great Lord of the harvest keep them so, and give them a pious, faithful, and energetic ministry, and guide you in looking over this field.

Respectfully submitted,

JNO. J. D. RENFROE.

All of the foregoing is respectfully submitted,

WM. B. WYNNE. Ch'rm.

EXHIBIT H.—We, your committee, to whom was confided the Executive Department of the 2d. district report owing to the limited means with which we have had to operate, we have labored under many embarrassing circumstances, but by the liberal donation of the southern board, for whichwe should be every way thankful we have been enabled to employ Elder James Fields to ride six months at twenty dollars per

month, and for further particulars we refer you to his report, but before closing we would recommend the churches of this district to send up the amount they are willing to contribute for carrying on Home Missions in our bounds, by their delegates to the Association that their executive department may not labor under so many disadvantages.

Brother Jas. Fields in the employ of the executive department of the 2nd district in connexion with the southern board, report from April 1st. up to the meeting of the body, he had preached 154 sermons; 118 exhortations; 149 family visits; traveled 950 miles; aided the constitution of one church; received by baptism 33; by letter 19; supplied two churches, with regular monthly preaching, and three other stations and complains that our ministers cannot supply the destitution of this district, and many of the Churches have to be supplied by this operation and pray you to continue the same.

Donations

Mount Pleasant church

Redin Hodge	$3 00
George Turner	1 00
Joshua Hodge	1 00
Wade B. Neely	1 00
P. S. Montgomery	1 00
Wm. Hodges	1 00
Miss Mary Yarborough	1 00
Mrs. Ann Alford	50
Mrs. Ledia Bowlin	1 00
B. T. Pope	1 00
T. C. Bowlin	1 00
C. C. P. Farrer	1 00
	$13 50

Providence Church

Samuel Waldrop	3 00
T. F. Smith	1 00
C. P. Johnson	3 00
	$7 00

Union Church

Jemima Stephens	$5 00
Obadiah Hester	2 00
A. B. Smith	2 00
Levi Stephens	2 00
	11 00

Pleasant Grove Church

Grigsby Appleton	1 00
Washington Martin	1 00
Van Hall	2 00
Thomas N. Appleton	5 00
W. C. Newman	25
Cathrine Barksdale	25
Elizabeth Newman	1 00
Elizabeth Smith	50
Eliza Appleton	3 00
Evaline Brock	25
Charlott E. Nalbert	25

Missadonia Church

For the Southern Board	$8 50
Mount Harmony church, Blunt county, for the Southern Board	10 50
Received of A. B. Smith, surplus for last year	8 75
Cash from Southern Board	12 50
Yet due from Southern Board	37 50
Credit by cash from churches to her credit	19 00
Yet due from Southern Board	18 50
Cash received from church	55 00
Surplus from last year	8 75
Paid to Brother Fields	63 75
Amount of salary	70 00
from Executive committee	6 25

Respectfully submitted

C. P. JOHNSON, Chr'm

T N Appleton, Treas.

Exhibit I.—The committee on correspondence beg leave to make the following report: We have carefully examined the documents by Elders W. M. Wilson and P. Archer, from the Tallassehetchee, also a letter and minutes from the Coosa Baptist Association, by the hand of Elder Wm. Kimsey, in which we find much to sanction and approve

Respectfully submitted

A. HAWKINS, Chr'm.

Exhibit K.—We, your committee on Finance, beg leave to submit the following report; We have

Received for Minutes	$22 85
" " Association purposes	6 50
" By public collection for the Southern Board	86 45
" Home Missions for 1852 from Unity Church	1 20
Mount Pleasant Church for Foreign Mission cause	1 25
Foreign Bible cause	1 00
Total	$19 25

Paid to Elder W. C. Mynatt for Southern Board	$16 45
Paid to W. Mynatt for Foreign Missions	1 [illegible]
Paid to W. C. Mynatt for Foreign Bible cause	1 00
Paid to W. B. Wynne Clerk	30 45
	$19 24

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. COATS, Chr'm

STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES AND COUNTIES.	NEAREST P. O.	Names of Delegates.	By whom Supplied.	SAB. OF MT.	BAPTIZED.	REC'D BY LET.	DIS. BY LET.	EXCLUDED.	RESTORED.	DEAD.	WHITE.	COLORED.	TOTAL.	Con. for Min.	ASSO. PUR.
FIRST DISTRICT.															
Lebanon, Cherokee County, Alabama.	Turkeytown,	W.B.Wynne, P. M. Turner, R. M. Williams	Mynatt	1	5	4	2	2		2	68	14	82	200	100
Yellow Creek, do. do. do.	Leesburg.	W. S. Whittan Wm Bishop.	do	4	0	3	4	1		3	50	3	53	65	25
Cedar Bluff, do. do. do.	Cedar Bluff,	MYNATT RENFRO, J Lawrence, A Hawkins,	do	2	20	15	4	1		1	132	9	141	300	200
Unity, do. do. do.	Gaylesviile,	J. B High, *E T Willingham*, Jas Grogan,	Renfroe	1	2	1	5	4		3	71	3	74	200	100
Providence, do. do. do.	Cedar Bluff,	John Witt, Wm Witt,	do		0	3	1	1		00			17	60	
Mill Creek, do. do. do.	Gaylesville,	H O Golightly, W S Pitts,	do	3	11	1-	5	2		1			65	200	
Mt. Bethel, do. do. do.	Cobb's Mills,	Jas McGee	do	2	00	2	00	00					12	25	
Holly Spring, do. do. do.	Alpine, Ga.	*A W Cunningham*, M B Gaines,	do	4	6	4	6	1					30	100	
SECOND DISTRICT.															
Mt. Pleasant, St. Clair do. do.	Ashville,	T Bowling, R Hodges, P S Montgomery,	Collins	2	00	4	0	4		1	65	5	70	150	
Bethany, DeKalb do. do.	Gadsden,	J T M'Brayer, A Sheppard, J Ramsey,	Penn	2	00	00	3	1			56		56		
Pleasant Hill, do. do. do.	Duck Spring,	R H RAMSEY, Jas Hamit,	Ramsey	1	00	00	00	00					15		
Union do. do. do.	do.	J A REAVE, *A B Smith*, J Coats,	Reave	4	00	7	10	00			68	5	73	150	100
Providence, do. do. do.	Hendrixville,	W PENN, H H Dalrymple, L Loveins,	Penn	1	2	8	7	00		1			43		
Pleasant Grove, do. do. do.	Van Buren,	T N Appleton, G Appleton, Van Hall,	Mynatt	3	00	7	12	4		2	45	7	52	120	
Mt. Harmony, do. do. do.	Lebanon,	J T Morgan T Goggin,	do	3	00	2	3	00			10		10	50	100
Valley Head, do. do. do.	Valley Head,	Allen Lee		1	2	3	4	7					30	50	
Mt. Olivet, Jackson do. do.	Leyonsvile,	M. R. LEYON	Leyon	3		00							6	100	
Clear Creek, St. Clair do. do.		L. Ellis, J. M. Keener	Johnson		9	4	2	00					20	105	
Mt. Pleasant, Marshall do. do.		J. H. Spann		3	1	00	00	00					11	50	
Massedonia, DeKalb do. do.		W. Slaton, Glazner, D Amos	Fields		15	25	00	00	1				88	60	

Ordained Ministers in SMALL CAPS--Licenteates in *italics*.

NOTE.--If the churches, in making out their statistics, would observe the above form, it would save the Clerk of a great deal of unnecessary labor. CLERK.